



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.6920 | FAX (517) 373.2751
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/kuipers/

For Immediate Release
December 2, 2003

Contact: Darin Ackerman
517-373-6920

Kuipers introduces anti-litter hotline

Lansing — Sen. Wayne Kuipers (R-Holland) today introduced Senate Bill 860 to create a statewide telephone number for people to report litterers.

Kuipers' bill is part of the 13-bill, bi-partisan package stemming from recommendations of the Michigan Beverage Container and Recycling Task Force. The task force released its recommendations to stimulate statewide recycling earlier this fall. Michigan ranks near the bottom of all states with just a 20 percent recycling rate.

Kuipers served as a member of the task force.

"Like all Michigan residents, I want our children to be able to enjoy our state's natural splendor," Kuipers said. "By enacting the task force's recommendation, we will help keep the natural environment free of trash and ensure Michigan stays a top tourist destination."

Other parts of the package would:

- Create a Recycling Advisory Council;
- Allow for an assessment of a new \$3 surcharge on commercial and residential waste going into Type II landfills;
- Create a new Recycling and Waste Diversion Fund for counties to run both new and existing recycling and waste reduction programs;
- Create a new litter incentive program that allows individuals to qualify for a cash award if they provide information leading to a conviction under the anti-litter statute;
- Create a Statewide Recycling Coordinator position;
- Create requirements for a comprehensive statewide litter study and require the state to develop and implement a new anti-litter media campaign; and,
- Make changes to the Adopt-a-Trail, Adopt-a-Park, Adopt-a-Shoreline and Adopt-a-River programs to allow volunteer groups to report on the volume and type of waste they collect.

###